Undercover security guards at work in Con U classes

"It's common practice," says security director

by Colin Niven

The classmate you borrowed a pen from last week may not have been a student. In fact, he or she might have been a plainclothes security guard casing your class.

That sounds like fiction, but Concordia's security director Michel Bujold says it is not.

Bujold says it's common practice for security guards to go undercover, posing as students attending classes, to get information about students and others suspected of criminal activity.

The security department is using this kind of underground information-gathering in its investigation of a recent assault case, he said.

Bujold and MUC police are looking for a man who tried to assault a Concordia student outside the Hall Building Oct. 28. The student said the man had attended her sociology classes several times.

But CUSA co-president Charlene Nero says campus security is not mandated to do plainclothes surveillance.

"It's not within the scope of the security services that are offered at the university," she said.

The Task Force on Security Matters was assembled last April to review the services provided by the security department following a spate of threats against student representatives. Its report does not cite undercover investigation as a recommended function of the security department.

The task force report says security services provided by the university should include regular building and ground patrols, emergency response, advice and assistance to individuals and groups requesting it and education on public safety issues affecting the university community.

The report states, "The mandate for the (security) department needs to be re-written to reflect a more positive and dynamic image, i.e. that of 'guardian' rather than 'night watchman' or 'policeman.'"

Nero said the security department is not following the guidelines set by the task force.

"The department is called C.S.S.(Campus Security Services) not C.I.A.," she said. "They're not supposed to be in there trying to collect intelligence.

"We have the rector repeatedly telling us he doesn't want to turn the university into a police state, and we find that we have undercover cops in our classrooms."

Nero said the undercover surveillance is a "knee-jerk" reaction. She said students and faculty are dissatisfied with the university's response to the Aug. 24 shootings and issues that would not have been taken seriously six months ago are now very serious.

"There is the absence of clear guidance from the top down telling the university what's being done and what needs to be done," she said.

Bujold said the security department took it upon itself to conduct covert surveillance of students in class.

Associate vice-rector of services Max Barlow said he knew of only one incident in which security infiltrated a classroom in plainclothes, because he read about it in a student paper.

Bujold said he reports directly to Barlow but they don't discuss exactly how an investigation is to be conducted.

"There's a level of trust there," Bujold said. "(Barlow) is made aware of the case but not of the operational procedure—he knows I won't cross the line.

"I use my experience in security to judge what is morally right. We pretty much have carte blanche on campus."

Bujold said he always has one or two ongoing cases involving undercover personnel. "We do monitor classes at regular intervals, but there has to be a motive behind it."

He said some students who feel threatened will ask for a guard to accompany them to and from class. The guard may even stay with the student in the classroom and, in the interest of not drawing attention to the student, the officer may not be in uniform.

Or a professor may feel nervous because of threats of violence against him and request that a guard sit inconspicuously at the back of the class while he teaches, Bujold said.

In other cases undercover security guards will infiltrate a classroom to get a "visual description" of someone suspected of a crime.

Susan Magor, director of the Environmental Health and Safety Committee that oversees security matters, was also unaware that campus security is doing plainclothes surveillance. But she said if security is going undercover "there must be a damn good reason for it."

"I'm sure it's called for. We have to trust the professionals to do their job," she said.

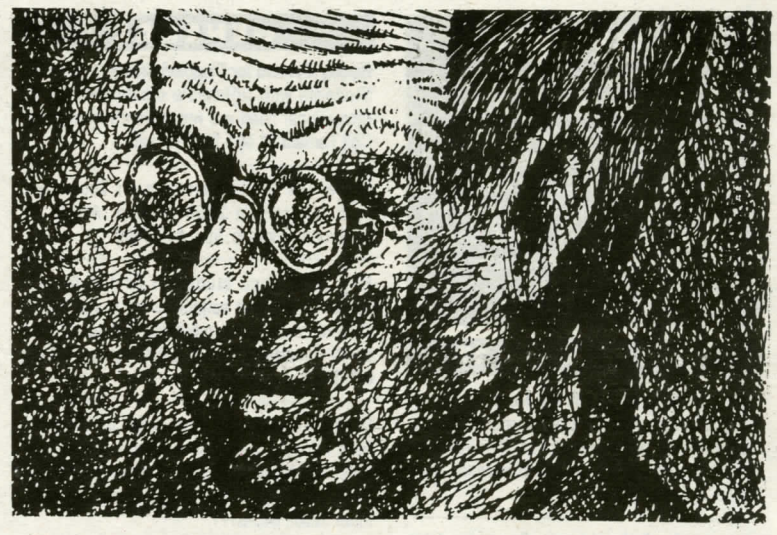
But Charlene Nero questions security's competence to conduct "covert operations."

"How dangerous is it when somebody with little training conducts such an investigation? What guarantee do we have that they're going to reach the right conclusions?" she said.

Nero said students' rights to privacy are being undermined. "It's an intrusive violation of people's privacy. It goes well beyond the kinds of powers we want at the university."

Nero said she intends to bring up the issue at the next meeting of the Environmental Health and Safety Committee in two weeks.

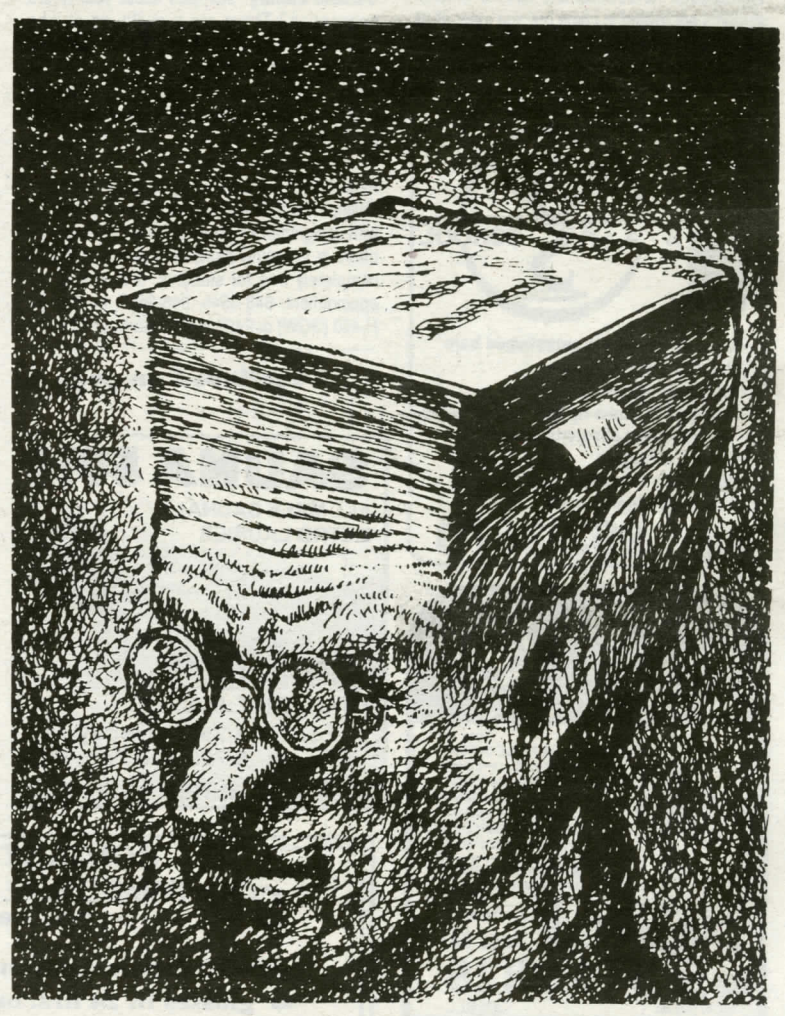
–Additional reporting by Jennifer Thomas and the Concordia journalism department radio newsroom



the Link

Volume 13, Number 19
Friday, November 27, 1992

Concordia University
Montreal, Quebec



GRAPHIC BY I. SMIRNOV FROM KROKODIL

Men rule grad association

All execs are men, only four of 13 on council are women

by Lucy Niro

Concordia's graduate students' association has no women executives and no women representatives on university bodies because it's still a 'boys' club,' said Danielle Comeau.

Comeau, a graduate student in communications, said the graduate students' association (GSA) has to do more than just try to get women to run for the positions.

"It's not a matter of them targetting women, it's what kind of atmosphere you find when you walk into the GSA office," she said. "It's not the sort of place I want to hang out at."

Men hold the GSA's five executive positions and there are only four women members out of 13 on its council, the association's equivalent to a board of directors.

Acting president Gley Zitouni said this is the first year there are no women on the executive. There has always been one woman on the executive in past years, he said.

Zitouni admitted he is concerned about this year's shortage of women representatives despite their efforts to recruit women.

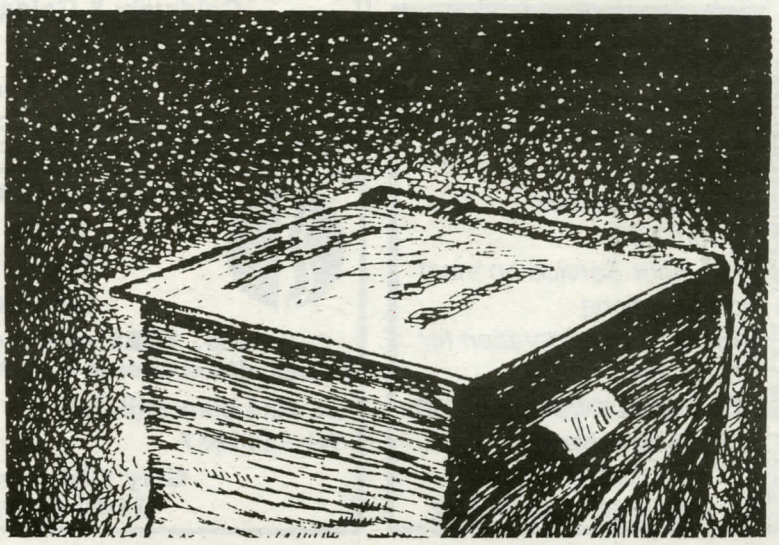
"But as far as I'm concerned, we did our best," he said.

Didier Pomerleau, past president of the GSA, said over the last 10 years, women have made up 40 per cent of the GSA council.

"It certainly would have been nice to have more women representatives," said Pomerleau. "There was talk about more active recruitment of women, but it was never translated into any formal or specific recommendations."

Kristen Gilbert, CUSA's v.p. women's issues, said she noticed the GSA nominated only men to all university bodies, including Senate, the Board of Governors, and

continued on page 3



AGENDA

The Agenda is a FREE service to publicize Concordia-related events. Space priority is given to non-profit and student groups. Drop off your info. at our office, room H-649 in the Hall Building, or mail it in, indicating AGENDA on the envelope. Deadlines are 5 pm Friday for Tuesday issues, and 5pm Wednesday for Friday issues.

Friday, November 27

Film screening to benefit the Montreal Sexual Assault Centre: "Wisecracks," a witty 90 minute documentary which explores the world of female comedians on stage and beyond. 7pm, H-110. No reserved seating.

Last-week-of-class-bash. Sponsored by CPSA. At Roxy's, 1445 Bishop. Info: 848-7417.

Saturday, November 28

AIDS-Related Para-Legal Issues. Presented by Howard Ginsberg. A free evening presented by CSAM's English-language Activities Group. 7pm, at CSAM, 3600 Hôtel-de-Ville, Grand Salon. Info: 282-9888.

Monday, November 30

Adults with Learning Disabilities monthly meeting. Guest speaker: Ms. Shirley Sarna, Commission of Human Rights to speak on "Human Rights and Learning Disabled: how it may affect us." At the Atwater Library, 1200 Atwater, 7-9pm. Info: 935-7344.

Therapeutic Recreation and Leisure Studies students are invited to come out and meet all of the department's full and part-time faculty. 5-6:30pm, Belmore House, 2496 West Broadway. Info: Neal, 486-3661.

GENERAL

Buddy System for Disabled Students. Wanted: Students with (in)visible disabilities whose recreational need are not currently being met. Call Tamara @ 487-1583 for info.

Model UN Group: meetings on Thursdays, 7pm (sharp!) at 2150 Bishop, Annex D. Everyone welcome. Info: 848-7409.

Hey you psych students! As the largest department in the school, come to the Psych students association meetings and speak your mind! Tuesdays, P-205 (2020 Mackay). Info: 848-7487.

Discussion group: organized by students from families of Jewish and non-Jewish parents. Everyone welcome to explore and discuss in an open, non-judgemental environment. Hillel, 845-9171.

Discussion group: organized by students from families of Jewish and non-Jewish parents. Everyone welcome to explore, discuss in an open, non-judgemental environment. Hillel, 845-9171.

Volunteers needed for World AIDS Day, to make banners, posters, to prepare materials, and/or assist at exhibition on December 1. Info: Diane at Health Services, 848-3575.

Montréal Sexual Assault Centre, 24 hour crisis line: 934-4504.

Maison Tanguay is looking for books in good condition for their library. Recent knitting magazines and French bestsellers are especially welcome. Call Terri: 934-3176

Careers Library: stumped about your future occupation? There are a multitude of jobs which could meet your interests & abilities. The Careers Library provides a wide variety of materials on career planning and job search technique. Counselling and Development: 848-3545/3555.

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Continued on page 4

CLASSIFIED ADS

RATES: 20¢ per word for Concordia students (CUSA), 25¢ per word for other students and business ads. Deadlines are 5pm Friday for Tuesday issues, 5 pm Wednesday for Friday issues. Come to room H-649 in the Hall building and fill out one of our painless forms. Hours: Mon-Fri 10-5. Ads must be accompanied by payment, or they will not run. We do NOT take classified ads by phone or by fax.

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Cegep federation calls for cut in health care

Education is our only priority, says federation president

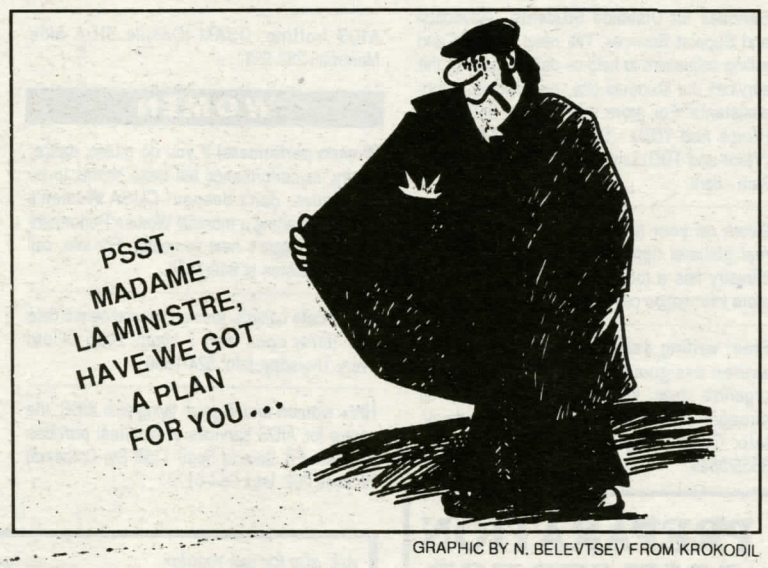
by Dave Ley

MONTREAL (CUP)—A Quebec student association has proposed the provincial government cut funding for health care in order to pay for education at the college level.

The Féderation Étudiante Collegiale du Québec (FECQ), a provincial college student association, told a parliamentary commission this month the government should "cut other areas of the budget, notably to put into question the system of free health care."

FECQ suggested that monies budgeted for health care could be used to fund cash-strapped Cegeps.

The provincial government established the commission last spring to look at the position of Cegeps in Quebec. The commission, which wrapped up its hearings yesterday, looked at the underfunded Cegep system, and may propose introducing a tuition fee for Cegeps.



GRAPHIC BY N. BELEVTSEV FROM KROKODIL

All provincial student associations, including FECQ, support the system of free tuition as it is now, and oppose any introduction of fees at the college level.

But some student politicians said FECQ's proposal has de-legitimized their position.

"This proposal will make the minister happy," said Gregoire Prince, a representative of the student association at Cegep St-Laurent. "FECQ's position is an extreme right position. It's not very respectful of the position of its members, not to mention incredibly absurd."

Stephanie Bennes, president of the student association at Cegep Edouard-Montpetit, a member of FECQ, said her association hasn't taken a stand on cutting health care.funding.

"We are extremely opposed to tuition fees at the Cegep level," Bennes said.

"We need accessible education."

Marc Goteau, a student councillor at Montreal's Cegep Bois-de-Boulonge, said his council hasn't taken a stand on cutting health care.funds either.

"We haven't envisaged how college education would be paid for, and we don't have an exact position on FECQ's proposal to cut health care," said Goteau.

"We are completely opposed to all efforts by the government to impose tuition," he added.

FECQ is the Cegep counterpart to the Féderation Étudiante Universitaire du Québec (FEUQ). Together they constitute the largest student association other than the Association nationale des étudiantes et étudiants du Quebec (ANEEQ), their main rival.

ANEEQ members say they don't understand FECQ's position.

"It's completely nuts," said André Gagnon, an executive member of ANEEQ. "How can we maintain free tuition and cut health care at the same time?

"Students have to pay for healthcare as well, it's an absurd idea."

FECQ president Frederick Lapointe said the association will amend its proposal to exclude cuts in health care funding.

However, Lapointe said FECQ's official position is to prioritize education, not health care.

"When we defend a social dynamic we defend it to the end, it is not up to us to define the concepts the government will impose to increase Cegep funding," he said.

When he was asked if Cegep students supported FECQ's proposal to trade off health care for Cegep funding, Lapointe said the students support the association's position regarding tuition fees but not its position about cutting health care.

False alarm points to evacuation flaws

by Paul S. Jeszenszky

Firefighters sped to Concordia's new J.W. McConnell building Tuesday morning only to find for the second time this semester, it was a false alarm.

The alarm went off at 10:34 a.m., drawing four firetrucks to the scene. For 20 minutes, de Maisonneuve Street was blocked off from Bishop to Mackay while firefighters looked for the cause of the alarms.

The firemen concluded turning on the furnace set off the alarm.

But the false alarm has sounded some real alarms about evacuation procedures.

Leo Bissonnette, Coordinator of Services for Disabled Students, said it took 15 minutes for a student in a wheelchair to exit the building.

Yesterday Bissonette met with the university administration to discuss the problem.

"The concerns about safety and training to help the disabled during emergencies was tabled and will be dealt with to my satisfaction," he said.

Bissonette said changes would be made to the new building where the handicapped are concerned.

"The library has been very helpful" about disabled students' concerns, he said.

And while some students had trouble getting out of the building, others didn't even bother trying. When the alarm went off a message telling everyone to evacuate immediately was broadcast on the building's public address system.

But a crowd of over 100 students ignored the evacuation order and waited in the atrium.

"I thought it was a fire drill, I guess I'm just getting used to it," said one of several students gathered in the atrium while firefighters were in the building.

Other students resented the interruption during the end of semester rush to finish papers or study for tests.

"It was a waste of time," said Alison Blanchette. "I would understand if it were something real but so far it's been nothing."

The alarm was triggered by dust and oil in a section of the ventilation that had not yet been used, said Laurie Zack, assistant director of Concordia's public relations department.

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Women-only walk criticized

by Kirsten Khubyar

THUNDER BAY (CUP)—Lakehead University's Gender Issue Centre (GIC) is getting a lot of flack for excluding men from its Take Back The Night Walk, held on Nov. 25.

The walk originated in the 1970's when a group of women came together to take a stand against rape. The march symbolizes women's need to be independent and unafraid to do things that most men take for granted, such as taking a walk alone, after dark.

But some men on campus are accusing the centre of promoting reverse sexism by not letting them take part.

"I thought that we were supposed to be equal," said one second-year male student of the women's wish to take back the night without male company.

"We would like to have the right to go on the march but chances are not too many of us would go,"said another man.

Many women students see Take Back the Night marches as an opportunity to empower themselves.

The University's Gender Issue Centre was created to deal with the many problems women in the university face.

Sasha McInnes, the centre's coordinator, has invited Lakehead's male students, staff and faculty to join the White Ribbon Campaign which will run from Dec.1 to the 5.

Only men nominated to university bodies

continued from page 1

any committees with graduate representation.

"Their senate nominations were entirely, 100 per cent men and their senate appointments were 100 per cent men. And then we looked at the sexual harassment committee, for which the GSA also nominated a man," Gilbert said.

"I'm not opposed to the concept of men to represent women, but on a committee that's there to specifically serve women, that's gross."

But the GSA v.p. advocacy, Anser Qureshi, said the sexual harassment committee chose a man from the GSA because there are too many women representatives.

"We were sent a letter from the sexual harassment committee congratulating us for sending a man because there are a majority of women," Qureshi.said.

Although there is no talk of implementing an affirmative action program, GSA members still actively urge women to join them, he said.

"Council appointed three women because the majority are men, even though other men were interested in those position. If they are choosing women, then you can see they are sensitive to that," said Qureshi.

GRAPHIC BY A. ALESHICHEV FROM KROKODIL

Gilbert said that isn't enough.

However as an undergraduate student representative, she can only heighten awareness of the problem.

"We're not going to challenge their appointments or block their nominations. But we can make their choices public and challenge their nominations," Gilbert said.

"Forty per cent of graduate students are women and we're hoping they'll take it upon themselves to do something about it."

But she said that does not mean the GSA does not have a duty to ensure women are equally represented.

"They should be actively seeking gender equity. This situation points to a real social irresponsibility," Gilbert said.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Continued from page 2

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The new edition of Concordia Resources for Women book available at the Status of Women office, 2150 Bishop, and at the Concordia Women's Centre, 2020 Mackay, downstairs.

Volunteers needed at the Centre d'Action SIDA Montréal (Femmes) 1168 Ste-Catherine O, suite 202. Training is provided. Info: 954-0170.

Lesbian Rugby and/or volleyball team: No experience is necessary! Info, comments, suggestions please call Luanna or Monia at 762-5545.

Bi-the-Way, a discussion group for bisexual women holds meetings every Friday at 8pm at the McGill Women's Union. Info: 598-8661.

Spring Break in Cuba, $670, all inclusive (open-bar, three meals a day, animation, double occupancy, etc.) For more info call Heather or Tara at 938-8438 ASAP.

Return ticket to Toronto for $50. Call Angelos, 845-2381, 935-5223.

GENERAL

Artist materials = great gifts. Artist materials & great prices = super gifts. Save 30% to 50% or more on paints/brushes/pastels/pencil sets, children's art materials, sketch books, & much more. Fine Arts Faculty, Art Supply Store Gift Sale: Loyola Campus Centre, Nov. 24-27, mezzanine, Hall building Dec. 2-4, Foyer VA building Dec. 7-9.

Graduate Student Get-togethers, School of Graduate Studies. The academic year 1992-93 is the inaugural year for the School of Graduate Studies. It will prove to be exciting and will provide us with the opportunity to initiate projects, such as promoting a lecture series by visiting speakers and other similar ventures. to forge stronger links between faculty and students and to stimulate scholarly debate within the community. In addition, Dean Martin Kusy would like to meet with graduate students so we have arranged "get-togethers" for this purpose. There will be two such sessions each semester at our Graduate Administrative offices, 2145 Mackay Street. They will be held from 6pm to 8pm on the following dates: First semester, Tuesday, October 6, 1992, Thursday, November 12, 1992. Second semester: Wednesday, February 3, 1993, Monday, March 8, 1993. Because our space is limited, I ask that you please reserve one of the following dates by contacting Ms. Kali Sakell at 848-3803 if you are interested in attending. We look forward to seeing you.

LOST & FOUND

Lost (missing) - Victor Pienda Henestrosa. Has not been seen since July 11, 1978 when he was abducted by a group of armed individuals in Juchitan de Zaragoza. Please contact Amnesty International if you have any info. Amnesty Concordia 848-7410.

Lost: Silver Ring with large diamond-like stone. Enormous sentimental value. Reward. 284-0096

AGENDA

Continued from page 2

Are you stressed out? Don't worry, we're here to listen. Come see us at the Peer Helper Centre located at 2130 Bishop.

Services for Disabled Students - Advocacy and Support Services. We need qualified and willing volunteers to help us deliver many of the services our students use, eg. readers, tutors assistants. For more information: 848-3525; (Voice and TDD) - SGW H-580, 848-3536; (Voice and TDD) Loyola AD-121. Office hours: 9am - 5pm.

Down on your luck and even KD is looking real gourmet right about now? The Campus Ministry has a food voucher programme, for more information call 848-3588.

Free: writing assistants: term papers and written assignment? Help to get started, organize ideas, identify areas that could be stronger. H-440 and 2490 West Broadway. Info: Counselling and Development, 848-3555/3545.

The Legal Information Service: If you have problems with your landlord, or with a contract that you signed, or you are looking for information on divorce, we can help! Offices at room CC-326, 7141 Sherbrooke St. West, 848-4960 from 9am-5pm, Monday to Friday. Services are free and confidential.

AIDS hotline: CSAM (Comité SIDA Aide Montréal) 282-9991.

WOMEN

Women performers! If you do music, dance, poetry, or performance but there seems to be no venues, don't despair! CUSA Women's Issues is starting a monthly Women Performers Night at Reggie's next semester. For info, call Emily or Kristen at 848-7474.

Biblio-café Labyris: lesbian cultural centre café and library open from 7-10pm, 2025 Gilford every Thursday. Info: 524-1336.

HIV+ women and Women living with AIDS: the centre for AIDS services of Montreal provides info Mon-Fri, 9am to 5pm, 1168 Ste-Catherine W, suite 202. Info: 954-0170.

Feminist tours of Montreal! Info: L'Autre Montréal, 521-7802.

HIV+ women and Women living with AIDS: the centre for AIDS services of Montreal provides info Mon-Fri, 9am to 5pm, 1168 Ste-Catherine W, suite 202. Info: 954-0170.

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The Faculty of Arts and Science is pleased to announce the first in its annual series of lectures on gender, race and class.

Joanne St. Lewis will speak on Wednesday, Dec. 2, 1992 at 8:00 p.m. in the Alumni Auditorium (H-110)

The issue is race.
Academic Freedom vs. Political Correctness

Joanne St. Lewis is the Executive Director of the Women's Legal Education and Action Fund (LEAF). A bilingual lawyer, St. Lewis has extensive experience in the area of equal rights.

U of O medical school racist, say students

by Nihal Sherif

OTTAWA (CUP)—Pictures are worth a thousand words and the University of Ottawa medical school's graduating class photos tell an interesting story.

The faces in the photos from the past 10 years become progressively more diverse but Mary (not her real name),a second-year science student, said the school hasn't done enough to increase the number of students from visible minority communities.

"I think the interview process in regards to blacks is discriminatory because a lot of black people apply with equivalent qualifications as others, and funnily enough they never get beyond the interview," she said.

But Dr. Maurice Beaulieu, the dean of admissions at the University of Ottawa's medical school said the selection committee is as fair as possible.

"I have been involved with the admissions committee for years and the people who come to us are very dedicated," said Beaulieu. "If you ask me 'was there anybody racist,' honestly unless I'm sick myself, the committee goes out of its way trying to be honest.

"The only thing we had at one point is that we did not admit enough black people. I don't even know who is black, who is not black; who is brown, who is not brown," he said.

Although the number of students from visible minority communities has increased from four per cent in 1984 to 25 percent in 1992, the number of black students graduating from medicine has remained relatively constant. There are almost none.

In 1985, only two black students graduated from U of O, out of a graduating class of 83 students. In 1987, there was one black student in a class of 80. Over the past eight years, from 620 graduating med school students, only three have been black.

GRAPHIC BY N. MALOV FROM KROKODIL

Beaulieu said there are two or three more in this year's class.

According to the 1991 photos, representation from the visible minority communities in the graduating class was composed of mostly Indian, Asian and a few Arab students.

Mary said she knows of many visible minority students who have gone through interviews, but were not accepted into the program.

"We want the same chances as anyone else of getting in," she said.

The University of Ottawa's medical school receives over 2,000 applications from which 400 are selected for interviews. Of the 400 applicants, only 80 students are admitted to the program.

Beaulieu said good marks only get an applicant as far as the interview and do not assure anyone a place in the med school.

"If you come here and tell me, 'well I'm a very good student. I get 99 per cent and I study from 7 o'clock in the morning until 9 o'clock at night and I do nothing else', you are not going to score high in the interview," he said.

Beaulieu said the admissions committee is looking for students who are aware of what is going on in the community and who occasionally read a newspaper.

"Physicians will touch all levels of society from ignorant people to people who are highly educated and they will have to relate," he said.

Beaulieu said an interviewer should not recommend an applicant to the admissions committee if he would not be prepared to go to the applicant as a patient himself.

"When we select students, we want people that will be accepted by you and by everybody," he said.

Beaulieu said the qualities they measure are verbal communications, critical thinking, empathy, motivation and personal experience.

Each year,the Faculty Council of the medical school chooses two new people to conduct the standard interviews They each use a criteria grid and reference questions to evaluate the applicant.

The interviewers do not exchange opinions during the process. They report individually to the admissions committee, which makes the ratings official. Both interviewers must justify their interview ratings, especially when there are large discrepancies between them.

During the screening process,family, religion or ethnic-related topics are not to be touched upon by the interviewers

Beaulieu said that having two interviewers is a safeguard for the student

"Suppose I don't like black hair, I'm prejudiced against black hair, well he's (the partner) there to watch the system, monitor what I do, how I perform. He sees if I'm biased or not," said Beaulieu.

He added it also protects the interviewer if students interviewed on a one-to-one basis decide to make any kind of allegations.

However, some students disagree. One second-year medical student argued that it is impossible to be objective in interviews.

"I think there are human beings doing the interview and they have a lot of biases and personal agendas to fill," the student said.

"For instance, if you come across as being to liberal or radical or left-wing or whatever, you might not have a good chance of getting in. There are all kinds of factors like that which play a role."

Beaulieu said he believes the problem of representation does not lie with the interview process.but with the fact that certain groups in society are just not applying.

Unlike American medical schools, there are no statistics to keep track of how many people from visible minority communities are applying to Canadian medical schools.

When students are selected for the interviews, there are no pictures, only files provided by a computer.

The faculty of medicine does not actively seek out applications from students from diverse backgrounds but after being invited, Beaulieu did visit francophone high schools to inform students about the program. He added that if other groups invited him he would respond.

Med school could learn lesson from law school

by Nihal Sherif

OTTAWA (CUP)—A few years ago the University of Ottawa faculty of common law faced similar concerns about representation of students from visible minority communities that its medical school is facing now.

Rosemary Cairnsway, chair of admission for the common law faculty, said the faculty's old method of combining grade point averages and Law School Admissions Test scores to admit students "privileged a certain kind of skill, a certain type of student."

According to the application package for 1993-94, the common law education equity program encourages and facilitates the participation of "racial and cultural minorities, native peoples, persons with disabilities, and economically-disadvantaged people."

The application process deals not only with marks but gives applicants the opportunity to self-identify with the under-represented groups and to present a personal statement explaining their background and individual perspective on law school.

Last year, 30 to 35 per cent of the applicants selected this option, said Michelle Dextra, assistant to the dean of common law.

The program also includes recruitment and outreach strategies to encourage members of the various groups to apply.

Beyond admissions, the education equity program examines the content and structure of the curriculum so as not to perpetuate racism, sexism or other discriminatory attitudes and approaches within the school.

"It's not that we've let you in the program, now you sink or swim on your own," she said.

There are also channels for students to express concerns about overt or systemic discrimination or share their perspectives with the faculty.

"It has changed what the school is like but it hasn't always been easy," said Cairnsway. "It's a challenge for a lot of professors and a challenge for the student body."

There are only 180 places in common law—120 places in the English program and 60 places in the French program. Despite the approximately 2,600 applications received, each case is considered individually, said Cairnsway.

There are no quotas used when selecting students for the program, however Cairnsway noted that last year approximately 25 per cent of the class was made up of students from visible minority communities.

"The class is certainly less homogenous than it was before. It's a more diverse population," she said.

Research a must for teaching English abroad

by George Zikos

Teaching English as a second language is attractive to graduates who want to travel but Derek Goldstein says students should be wary of the companies they sign up with.

Goldstein, a Concordia graduate in International Business, considered working abroad last spring. He looked into Interac, one of many companies that recruit university graduates to teach English in foreign countries.

But after reading Interac's documents and contract, Goldstein decided it wouldn't be worth his while.

"It sounded like a great opportunity to work with foreign business people (but) there weren't sufficient guarantees," said Goldstein. "I was disappointed with Interac's inability to be honest with me."

Palmer Acheson, a Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL) professor at Concordia, has travelled and taught extensively throughout the world.

He said people who don't have TESL degrees may find it hard to get a job teaching abroad.

"Japan is difficult now. Many people go (but) can't find enough work to survive," said Acheson.

He added that students should get informed about the companies or programs they sign up with by consulting guides which tell students how to get a job teaching abroad.

GRAPHIC BY A. ALESHICHEV FROM KROKODIL

Interac representatives told Goldstein he would teach English to business people in a Japanese corporation and implied it was a good career opportunity for a commerce graduate.

But Goldstein said this information was misleading.

"I found out that I would be teaching English to employees who had been rewarded for their performance in the company with English instruction. But many weren't interested in learning English," he said.

Interac asked Goldstein to get a Working Holiday Visa, because they wanted him to start work in Japan immediately. Interac told Goldstein he would work 20 hours or more per week.

However, when Goldstein consulted with the Japanese consulate, he found out the visa allowed for a maximum of 20 hours each week, and that it would expire after three months.

Working 20 hours a week wouldn't be enough to cover his expenses, Goldstein said.

Representatives of Interac told him the minimum monthly wage for a 20-hour week is180,000 yen (approximately $1,800).

"While it is a reasonable salary for here, it isn't enough to survive in urban Japan." said Goldstein .

He called Interac to see if he could get more hours to increase his earnings, but Interac would not guarantee Goldstein more work.

He decided not to go to Japan because the expenses for air-fare and the cost of renting an apartment were too steep.

Spins

by Stephen Smegelski

Leonard Cohen
The Future
Columbia

It's good to know that our local urban martyr hasn't lost his edge after all the years.

Montreal poet/songwriter Leonard Cohen begins his new album *The Future* with the title song, an apocalyptic scream in which he intones: "Give me crack and anal sex/Take the only tree that's left/ And stuff it up the hole in your culture."

Cohen's latest—coming nearly five years since *I'm Your Man* — will show its strength in time.

At the end of the title track, Cohen sings: "Give me Christ or give me Hiroshima," setting up his usual themes of good versus evil, religion, salvation, sex and death.

In an hour, Cohen gives us six new originals, two cover songs—Frederick Knight's *Be For Real* and Irving Berlin's *Always*—and one instrumental called *Tacoma Trailer*.

The album—dedicated to his current love interest, actress Rebecca De Mornay—moves from anger to a search for love, romance, and, finally, to a bittersweet melancholy, all delivered in a voice which keeps getting unbelieveably lower as years go by.

Musically, the disc features mid-tempo rock, moody synths, an amusing new wave honky tonk number called *Closing Time*, and his trademark women backup vocalists. What makes Cohen a subversive songwriter is how he offsets the casual melodies with his dark, lyrical imagery.

"From the homicidal bitchin'/ That goes down in every kitchen/ To determine who will serve and who will eat," he sings in *Democracy*, backed up by longtime collaborator Jennifer Warnes.

Cohen has always been anti-establishment, but his new political directness puts him even more on the cutting edge. His lyrics are a knife in the back of perpetrators of violence, hatred, and corruption.

He describes himself best in the lines: "I'm stubborn as those garbage bags that Time cannot decay/ I'm junk but I'm still holding up this little wild bouquet."

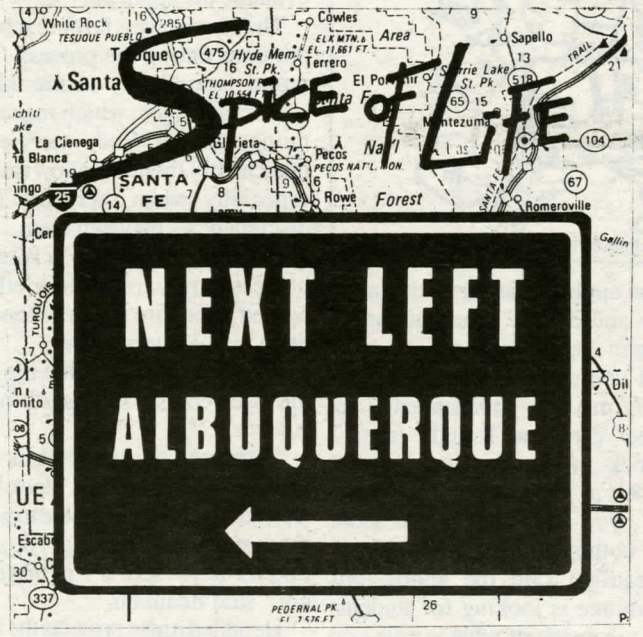
But with Cohen, even the wilted flowers are beautiful.

---

by Anuska Garcia

Spice of Life
Next Left Albuquerque
Indie

Can-con metal rock. Originally from the Ste. Anne de Wasteland (Bellevue), moved last July to Vancouver, BC. Result: this CD and a more West Coast feel to them. This is, I guess, Canada's answer to **Soundgarden** with Jean-Marc Blanchard's Chris Cornell-ish vocals.and their heavy Sabbath riffs, especially in the seven minute *Sunday Funday* and *Now*. Produced in Montreal by **Popper** drummer/ **Doughboy** and **Jerry Jerry** producer/ex-CRSG-er Steve Kravac who, I guess, is Montreal's answer to Butch Vig. Har! Har!



Mother Love Bone
Mother Love Bone
Polygram

This is Shangri-La folks. Seventeen tracks full of pre-**Pearl Jam** pop pap, a compilation of sorts of their two only releases *Apple* and *Shine* in '89-'90, before singer Andrew Wood died of a heroin OD. The music is mixed of style: at times very pretty (Stardog Champion, *Chloe Dancer/Crown of Thorns*, also on the cheesey Seattle film *Singles*) and at times it can get as glammy as **G'N'R**. *Mr. Danny Boy, Thru Fadeaway*, written by guitarist Stone Gossard, and the band's effort on *Half-Assed Monkeyboy* express under-exposed sexual ambivalence so covered up by the Seattle pretty boys of grunge. Lyrics are also psychedelic, loaded with mucho imagery:

love breeds like rabbits, i'm gonna set you free now...
CHARTREUSE REGALIA and PURPLE PIE PETES...
JEZEBEL CHILD cry...
motherlovebone...

■■■■■■■

Epidemic
Decameron
Metal Blade

Medic!!! **Epidemic** invades our senses with plague-like stealth. Loads of heavy tympani-crunching death metal. Kind of like Lizard back here in ol' Discotown. Side one is non-stop killer speed and death smitten with apocalyptic drumming, solid guitars and the requisite throat on *Circle of Fools*, *Insanity Plea*, *Vision Divine* and *Hate*. Look out for them opening up for **Suffocation** and **Malevolent Creation** December 16th at les Foufounes Electriques.

Meet the Lepers, oops, Epidemic.

Six-gun shootout

Touted as this year's sleeper hit, Carl Franklin's debut film *One False Move* is a must-see for anyone interested in seeing the polarities of cinematic violence. While the film functions as a taut and intelligent crime thriller, it also serves its purpose in unnerving audience expectations about cinematic mayhem. The violence in *One False Move* is gritty and shocking, not to mention very stylized.

The story centres on a trio of desperate and sociopathic drug dealers — Plato (Michael Beach), his cohort Ray (Billy Bob Thornton), and his girlfriend Fantasia (Lynda Williams). The trio butchers an innocent family and then escapes to Star City, Arkansas where the local sheriff (Bill Paxton) and two L.A. police detectives await their arrival.

As in most western-inspired detective stories, a bloody showdown is inevitable.

One False Move*, *playing at the Rialto (5723 Park) from Nov. 27.

FRINGE ARTS

PROTECT WILDLIFE

Write for Link Fringe Arts

Fringe Arts

Cryptic conspiracy

by James-Jason Lee

Don't worry, the seven sinister figures in the McConnell Building aren't a chthonic circle of campus conspirators. They are part of Dominique Blain's installation mounted in an exhibition celebrating the Canada Council Art Bank's 20th anniversary.

Ten works by Montreal artists are displayed, demonstrating the diverse nature of installation and sculptural art produced over the last seven years. Barbara McGill Balfour, Andrew Dutkewych, and David Moore are Concordia instructors featured in the show.

McGill Balfour's piece, *A Change of Heart*, along with Dominique Blain's untitled gathering, strike an ominous note.

With overlapping x-rays of the thorax and medical diagrams of the heart, her work addresses the intrusion of science and medicine into the body. Two x-rays of the thorax with a heart overlay, placed on human-scaled sheets of lead, lean against the gallery wall.

One sheet of lead is identified as a 14-year-old girl, while the larger thorax, with a correspondingly larger lead sheet, is identified as a 42-year-old man. In between hangs a photograph of hands in latex gloves holding the diagramic heart.

The installation's heart transplant is a metaphor of domination, science over intuition, medicine over the body, the man as recipient over the girl as donor.

Blain's installation is more theatrical. Seven figures draped in dark cloth kneel in a circle underneath a series of photographs. The photographs present men smoking cigars, whispering in each others ears. They seem engaged in the activity of power-broking and shadow government. Are the figures secret manipulators or the effaced manipulated pawns of oppression?

The work is like a black hole in the gallery in juxtaposition to David Moore's *One at a Time or All Together* and Martha Townsend's *The Bull* which use humour.

All the works in the show come from the Art Bank. The Art Bank was formed in 1972 to purchase Canadian contemporary art and make it accessible to the public through rentals and loans. The Art Bank has spent $15 million since its inception.

***Contemporary Montreal Sculp-Anniversary Celebration** at the Leonard and Bina Ellen Art Gallery, 1400 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W., LB 165, until Dec. 17.*

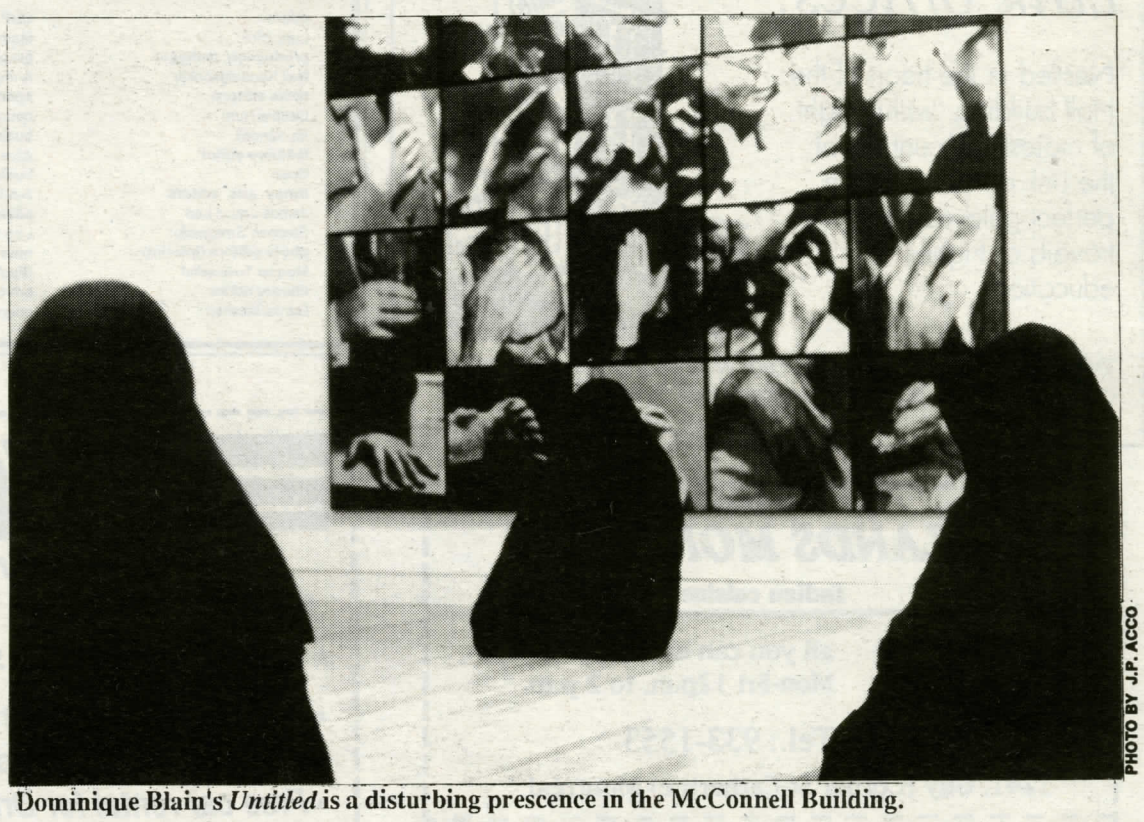


PHOTO BY J.P. ACCO

Dominique Blain's *Untitled* is a disturbing prescence in the McConnell Building.

Hip Cat Happenings

A special screening of Charlie Chaplin's *The Circus* will be presented tonight at Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier, Place des Arts. The film will be accompanied by **I Musici de Montréal**. Student tickets for the screening are going for a nifty $10. Not bad for PdA!

Join the fight for awareness on World AIDS Day. The **Concordia Sax Ensemble** under the direction of Dave Clark, **Theatre Students for Safer Sex** and singer Sue Prosser will be performing on the Mezzanine of the Hall building from 12-1:30pm.

Jazz and poetry lovers unite for an evening of jazz and poetry! **Capacity 101** will bring together a strong selection of Montreal's finest...musicians and poets. The event will feature live jazz and readings by writers like Endre Farkas and Mary di Michelle. **Capacity 101** is happening Wed., Dec. 2 from 7pm-12am at Hell's Kitchen, 4650 St. Laurent.

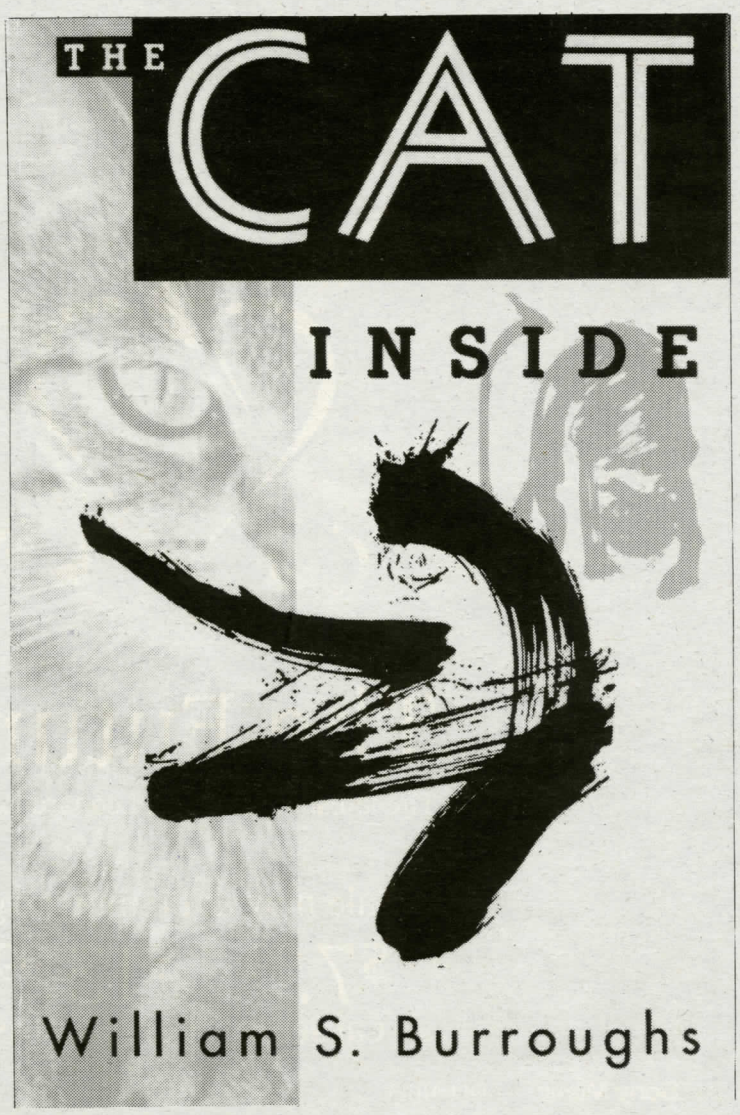
Black Theatre Workshop will be presenting their newest production *Master of the Carnival* Dec. 3-5 & 10-12 at 8pm at the Maison de la Culture N.D.G.. Tickets are selling for a mere $6 making this an ideal holiday present. For reservations call 932-1104.

William S. Burroughs' tails of sinister beauty

by Stephen Smegelski

American writer William S. Burroughs will probably never be called boring.

Burroughs has a way of transforming the most common incidents into works of sinister beauty.



Burroughs' new book *The Cat Inside* —a reprint of a previously limited edition from 1986—is a collection of poetic memoirs from 1984-1986 focusing on the writer's relationship with his cats. Although it may sound lame, Burroughs manages to create surreal metaphors out of everyday stories.

"My relationship with my cats has saved me from a deadly, pervasive ignorance," writes Burroughs at one point in the book, attempting to explain his relationship with these creatures to which he attributes magical qualities.

His cats are his 'Familiars' because he has a responsibility to nurture and care for them. And they serve as inspiration for Burroughs, and give him a sense of purpose.

The book is full of Burroughs' trademark surreal imagery, which incorporates mutant life form and his droll commentary on human nature and the wasteland of American culture.

His dream-derived imagery is vivid: "Last night I encountered a dream cat with a very long neck and a body like a human fetus, gray and transluscent." He then searches to find his place within the scenario: "It is the function of the Guardian to protect hybrids and mutants in the vulnerable stage of infancy."

The book is rife with Burroughs' sardonic humour. He dryly states how dogs passing by his residence tend to think:"Fucking cat house."

The Cat Inside is—except for *The Western Lands*—Burroughs' most personal work. A strong emotional thread is woven throughout this collection of anecdotes and notes.

Burroughs exposes his own sensitivity through his prose, which becomes surprisingly poignant at times. "This is a grief without witness. 'You are the last. Last human crying.' The cry is very old. Very few can hear it. Very painful," he writes, expressing his own feelings of sorrow, which everyone can relate to.

The book's autobiographical aspect is indispensable to the long-time Burroughs admirer.

In one dream remembrance, he writes: "In a dream I am in the house at 4664 Pershing Avenue where I was born. On the second floor, at the entrance to my old bedroom, I encounter a little blond child waiting there. 'Are you Billy?' I ask. 'I'm anybody to anybody who loves me,' he answers."

Words of wisdom may be gained from Burroughs' writings. His thoughtful meditations cut to the very heart of human nature. His thoughts on how humans interact with other animals show the writer's luminous observations on the coexistance of all things.

Although *The Cat Inside* may not be considered classic Burroughs in the way *Naked Lunch* is, it is still another insightful look into the mind of one of this century's great literary artists.

***The Cat Inside**, by William S. Burroughs, Viking Penguin, 94pp.*

Visit the stately Link offices.

Nestled in the heart of the Hall building, within sight of majestic Mount Royal, the Link offices offer the perfect getaway from the travails of higher education.

Why not drop by for a friendly chat with the natives over tea and crumpets some 4:30-ish Friday afternoon? Suite H-649.

A MESSAGE FROM *THE LINK* TOURISM BUREAU

the Link

Volume 13, Number 19
Friday, November 27, 1992

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Montreal, Quebec

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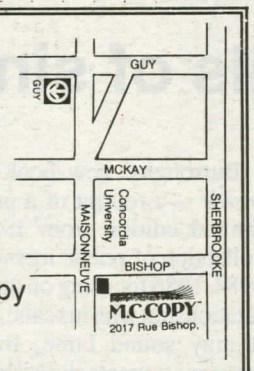

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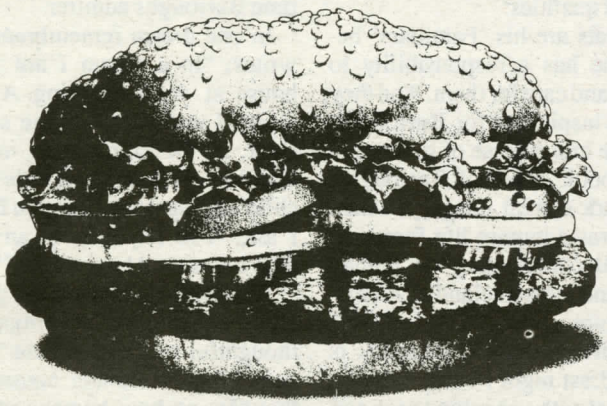

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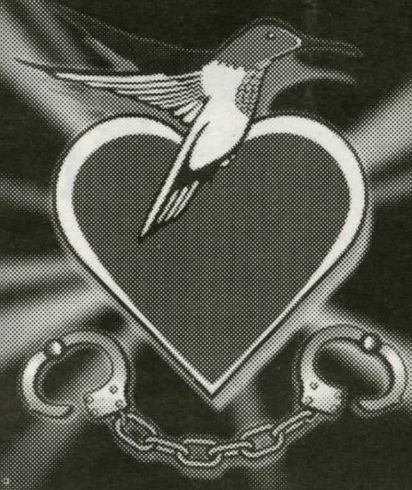

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